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JAMES M. Le BLANC
Secretary

State of Louisiana

Department of Public Safety and Corrections

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Pam Laborde
(225) 219-0499

Corrections Debuts Offender Locator System for Public

(Baton Rouge) Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) Secretary James M. Le Blanc announced today that the public can now access offender location information for state DOC offenders 24 hours a day, even for those DOC offenders housed in parish and private jails in Louisiana.

Previously, the public could access DOC offender housing assignments through LAVNS (the Louisiana Automated Victim Notification System) if they had internet access, or they could call DPS&C Headquarters (and field units) and get that information during regular business hours.

Now, anyone needing information on an offender (more than 100,000) assigned to the Department's custody/supervision can simply call **225.383.4580** to access the new Offender Locator system, which will give the caller the offender's housing assignment, address of the facility where he or she is assigned (160 locations), a contact phone number and a projected release date (if applicable). The public will not be able to access information on pre-trial, parish or municipal offenders with this system – only DOC offenders.

"The Department realizes that not everyone has access to the internet and these types of calls can take up a lot of staff time," said Le Blanc. "This system can be accessed 24 hours a day for convenience and it frees up our employees to work on other tasks."

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A caller must know the offender's DOC number or the offender's name and date of birth to access information. The caller must also use a touch tone phone or cell phone and can call from anywhere.

The new system will detail the Probation and Parole District assignment for those individuals supervised in the community. If an individual has completed serving his or her sentence and/or community supervision, the system will instruct the caller that the DOC number or offender name provided cannot be found.

The offender locator system can accommodate up to twelve (12) calls at one time and offender information will be updated on a daily basis. The system will also be helpful to the public during emergency situations in the event a parish jail or state correctional facility has to be evacuated and offenders moved to temporary locations.

Reminder: Crime victims and others directly impacted by the criminal actions of offenders under the department's authority are encouraged to register with the department's Crime Victims Services Bureau in order to receive written notice of an offender's projected release dates, transfer to work release, release from physical custody, and other key events. Anyone wishing to register may call the bureau's toll-free number (888-342-6110) or copy a registration form from the agency web site (www.doc.louisiana.gov) and mail it in.

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